United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1328
10 February 1993

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference welcome decision of United States Government to take active role in former Yugoslavia and to back its political commitment with readiness to enforce comprehensive settlement.

+ Security Council, in presidential statement, this evening condemns unjustifiable detention of Romanian vessels on the Danube by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). Says such "retaliatory measures" against a State enforcing United Nations sanctions are "wholly unacceptable".

+ In Cambodia, unknown gunmen fire at United Nations Communications Centre in Siem Reap; although no one is hurt, incident is being regarded with "utmost seriousness", says UNTAC spokesman.

+ Special Rapporteur on human rights in former Yugoslavia expresses his profound indignation over rape of women and children in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

+ Head of United Nations Children's Fund urges agency's Executive Board to accept proposals offered by City of New York to retain the agency's headquarters in Manhattan.

+ Food supply for former Yugoslavia "still critical" says World Food Programme.

+ World Food Programme appoints Jane Jopling of United Kingdom as new Director of New York Office.

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The Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the former Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, have welcomed the decision of the United States Government to take an active role in the former Yugoslavia and to back its political commitment with the readiness to enforce a comprehensive settlement.

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For information media--not an official record

In a statement read out late this afternoon following the United States announcement of the appointment of Reginald Bartholomew as that Government's special envoy to the international talks on the former Yugoslavia, Fred Eckhard, spokesman for the Co-Chairmen, said that they both know and respect the new United States envoy. He said Mr. Vance had worked with the Ambassador in a warm and close relationship over many years. Lord Owen met Ambassador Bartholomew when he briefed North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ambassadors a couple of months ago in Brussels.

Mr. Eckhard went on to say that the Co-Chairmen would go out of their way to make available to the United States envoy all the information at their disposal and that they were ready to see him whenever he wished. Meanwhile, he said, they would continue to keep the pressure on for an early agreement on a comprehensive peace settlement in the context of the discussions already under way in the Security Council.

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The Security Council has condemned the unjustifiable detention of Romanian vessels on the Danube by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and has called such "retaliatory measures" wholly unacceptable. This follows reports that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has detained Romanian vessels, and threatened to detain more, if Romania does not allow the passage of Yugoslav vessels on the Danube.

In a statement read out to the press following Council consultations this evening, Council President Ahmed Snoussi (Morocco) said it was "wholly unacceptable" for the Yugoslav authorities to take retaliatory measures in response to action by a State fulfilling its obligations under the United Nations Charter. The Council demanded that the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia immediately release the Romanian vessels they had "unjustifiably" detained and desist from further "unlawful" detentions.

The Council said it had learned that Yugoslavia had informed the Committee established by the Council to monitor States' compliance with the sanctions against that Republic, that the detained Romanian vessels would be released without further delay. However, the Chargé d'affaires of Romania had told the Committee that that had not yet happened.

The Council recalled its statement of 28 January 1993 urging States to enforce mandatory Security Council resolutions, with particular reference to Yugoslav vessels attempting to violate the embargo by way of the Danube. It commended the Romanian Government for the action it has taken to enforce the embargo and reaffirmed once again its full support for "vigorous enforcement" of the sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

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In Cambodia, a group of 20 to 30 gunmen wearing unidentifiable uniforms and armed with grenades, rockets and small arms had begun firing indiscriminately this morning in Siem Reap City, according to a spokesman for the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

Some rounds had gone through the United Nations Communications Centre where five Australian Signals men were staying, and one soldier had returned fire. There were no casualties, but the incident was being regarded with the "utmost seriousness", he said.

Meanwhile, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, has described the voter registration process in the country as a true "Cambodian success story". According to the UNTAC spokesman, Mr. Akashi has said that some 4.7 million voters have so far been registered and most of the 300,000 returnees have been given a chance to register. In addition, over 36,000 refugees have been listed in the camps in Thailand and will be issued registration cards on their return to Cambodia. Mr. Akashi also expressed pleasure at the large number of political parties -- a total of 20 -- that have applied for registration.

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The Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in former Yugoslavia, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, has expressed his profound indignation over the rape of women and children in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In a statement to the forty-ninth session of the Commission on Humam Rights currently under way in Geneva, he said he was disturbed by the extent of the phenonenon and called it "a highly cruel and degrading practice which bears upon the most vulnerable elements in society".

The Canadian representative, Anne Park, also highlighted the issue saying that evidence that had been brought to light recently had confirmed that Muslim women in Bosnia were enduring a barbaric campaign of systematic rape. She said no issue was more compelling or urgent for the Commission than that of the sexual violence being endured by thousands of women, especially in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

She called for an investigation of the matter by a special rapporteur or a team of experts.

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James P. Grant, the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), has urged the agency's Executive Board to accept proposals offered by the City of New York to retain UNICEF's headquarters in Manhattan.

Addressing the Board as it began its organizational session for the year, Mr. Grant said that although moving upstate to New Rochelle, New York, would

be cheaper, there were more advantages in remaining in New York City. The Executive Board is expected to act on the proposal regarding the location of UNICEF's headquarters during its substantive session in April.

On the question of the agency's finances, Mr. Grant said that last year, UNICEF's income had topped $900 million for the first time -- $74 million more than the medium-term projection. The Fund's general resources income was $525 million -- $7 million over the medium-term projection.

Mr. Grant drew attention to the continuing recession in the industrialized countries, noting that it had resulted in the reduction of those countries' contributions to UNICEF and other United Nations agencies. He referred in particular to the "significant cutbacks" in the contributions of the Nordic countries, which posed a serious problem for UNICEF, he said.

Turning his attention to the work of the Organization, Mr. Grant said the United Nations operations in Somalia presented new responsibilities and challenges to the organizations within the United Nations system, including UNICEF. He welcomed the military operation in Somalia which would involve the massive movement of up to 300,000 troops to that country to support the work of relief agencies.

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The World Food Programme (WFP) announced yesterday in Rome that the food supply situation in the republics of the former Yugoslavia remained critical, despite the positive response of donors for relief efforts already under way.

The agency said that nearly 90 per cent of the food requirements for the period of January to March had been pledged. However, there were no reserves of food stock in case of unexpected delays or other contingencies and little food had yet been pledged for the food requirements for the period April to December.

According to WFP, the food situation had remained under control due to carry-overs from earlier pledges and late deliveries. Now, the agency had asked donors to ship the food for the rest of the year in advance so that the food supply could be guaranteed.

In the former Yugoslavia, WFP operates from established offices in Zagreb, Belgrade and Split and mobilizes, in coordination with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), a pipeline of food to the estimated 3 million refugees and displaced persons.

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The Executive Director of the World Food Programme (WFP), Catherine Bertini, has appointed Jane Jopling of the United Kingdom as Director of the Programme's New York Office.

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As Director, Ms. Jopling will be responsible for managing WFP relations and liaison with the United Nations Secretariat and the New York-based United Nations agencies. She will work to integrate food aid plans into United Nations development and humanitarian activities. In addition, she will maintain contacts with government authorities in Washington, D.C. and Ottawa; she will also be the liaison with non-governmental organizations and the media.

From 1988 until the end of 1992, Ms. Jopling was a Director in the Executive Office of the United Nations Secretary-General, and dealt with economic, social and humanitarian issues.

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DH/1329
11 February 1993

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General deplores escalating hostilities between Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Bosnian Serbs near Sarajevo; four French UNPROFOR soldiers are wounded, two seriously.

+ During meeting at Headquarters, Secretary-General tells Israeli Foreign Minister that Israel's decision on deportees is "positive first step".

+ Elections for constituent assembly in Cambodia will be held from 23 to 25 May under United Nations auspices.

+ Three Cambodian civilians killed, eight injured in attack in Siem Reap yesterday, according to UNTAC spokesman; Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia to hold talks with French President this evening.

+ Special Representative for Angola appeals to Government and UNITA to agree on truce in Huambo to allow delivery of humanitarian aid.

+ Secretary-General, opening 1993 session of Special Committee on decolonization, says self-determination goals of all peoples have not been achieved.

+ Azerbaijan informs United Nations that Armenian force has seized seven villages in northern part of Upper Karabakh.

+ Total assessment for United Nations regular budget for 1993 is $1.07 billion; 18 Member States have so far paid their contributions in full for this year.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in a statement issued at Headquarters today, has deplored a major offensive launched today by the forces of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina against the Sarajevo suburb of Ilidza, abutting the airport.

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According to the statement, the attack was taking place from two directions and heavy artillery was being used. In response, the Bosnian Serb side had been moving tanks into the area to defend its position in Ilidza. The airport was caught in the crossfire and soldiers of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) at the airport were in "alert state red", confining them to their protected shelters. Four French soldiers had been wounded, two of them seriously, and all activities at the airport, which has been kept open by UNPROFOR for humanitarian flights, were now suspended.

The Secretary-General has called urgently on the parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina to cease hostilities and end the continuing cycle of conflict that has already caused too many casualties and inflicted so much destruction. He has further urged the parties to pursue their objectives through negotiation process rather than on the battlefield.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister of Israel, met this morning to discuss the situation concerning the 400 Palestinians deported by Israel to southern Lebanon in mid-December.

According to a press release issued at Headquarters, Mr. Peres explained his Government's decision of 1 February relating to the deportees. The Secretary-General responded by saying that the decision was a positive action as a first step and that he hoped further steps would be taken by the Israeli Government.

The Secretary-General stated that he has fulfilled the mandate entrusted to him by the Security Council by sending three missions to Israel and presenting his report to the Council. Both Mr. Peres and the Secretary-General stressed the importance of resuming the Middle East peace talks. Mr. Peres expressed his Government's interest in increasing cooperation with the United Nations. The Secretary-General welcomed such an interest.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has informed the Security Council that the elections for the constituent assembly in Cambodia, which will be held under the auspices of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), will be held from 23 to 25 May.

The decision on the dates for the assembly elections was reached at the meeting of the Cambodian Supreme National Council held in Beijing on 28 January under the chairmanship of Prince Norodom Sihanouk. That meeting was also attended by the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, and the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Marrack Goulding.

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The presidential election will take place after the constituent assembly adopts a new constitution for Cambodia.

The Secretary-General had submitted this information in a letter to the Council President, dated 1 February (document S/25273).

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Three Cambodian civilians were killed and eight injured in an attack in Siem Reap yesterday, according to a spokesman for the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

The spokesman said today that a progress report indicated that the group of attackers might have been as large as 40 to 50 armed soldiers wearing uniforms of various factions. Several bullets fired during the attack had hit UNTAC buildings and the radar equipment outside.

The identity of the attackers was still unknown. However, there was a theory emerging in Siem Reap that the attacks which had occurred over the last month might be attributable to a group of renegade soldiers from various factions who were banding together, possibly for the purpose of committing acts of banditry.

The spokesman added that President François Mitterrand of France was expected to arrive today for a 24-hour visit to Cambodia. The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, was scheduled to hold talks with the French Head of State tonight.

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Faced with reports of great suffering and destruction in Huambo and other areas of Angola, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Angola, Margaret J. Anstee, has appealed to the Angolan President and to the leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) to agree to a truce so that humanitarian aid can be provided immediately.

Thousands of people are reported to be wounded in Huambo, without proper medical assistance. Food and water are reported to be scarce. A truce is vital to permit help to be brought to the wounded and to the suffering civilians.

The Special Representative appealed for orders to be given urgently so that the practical aspects of such a truce can be implemented immediately.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told the Special Committee on decolonization yesterday, at the opening of its 1993 session, that the goals which had been reached over the past 30 years must not be taken for granted, as peoples, mainly in the Caribbean and the Pacific, still did not exercise their right to self-determination and independence.

Regarding the question of Western Sahara, the Secretary-General said he had held talks with all of the parties concerned, and that his Special Representative for Western Sahara had visited the region several times trying to resolve the difficulties impeding the implementation of a peace plan.

Pointing to other Non-Self-Governing Territories facing similiar problems, the Secretary-General said the positive results obtained by the Special Committee were a good sign that it would be able to propose solutions to resolve problems and help the Territories freely to choose their future status.

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Azerbaijan has informed the United Nations that an Armenian expeditionary force has seized seven villages in the northern part of Upper Karabakh within Azerbaijani territory.

According to a statement by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, Armenia was "continuing its war of aggression against sovereign Azerbaijan" and was not interested in a peaceful settlement of the Armenia/Azerbaijan conflict. Armenia, the statement said, was using the so-called humanitarian aid it was receiving from abroad, not to solve its social and economic problems, "but to continue its aggressive war of conquest against Azerbaijan".

The statement was contained in a letter, dated 8 February, to the President of the Security Council from Azerbaijan's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Hassan A. Hassanov.

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According to a communiqué issued at Headquarters today, the total assessment for the United Nations regular budget for 1993 amounted to $1.07 billion. Eighteen Member States had so far paid their contributions for this year in full.

Those States are: Australia, Botswana, Canada, Denmark, Federated States of Micronesia, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore and Sweden.

The communiqué said the contributions from the 18 Member States represented $233.9 million or 20 per cent of the total 1993 regular budget assessment. Total assessments issued as of today for peace-keeping operations for 1993 amounted to $681 million. During the month of January, $209 million was received representing payments against current and prior mandate periods, the communiqué said.

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United Nations

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Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

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12 February 1993

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General says that unless negotiated settlement is reached between Croats and local Serbs in 'pink zones', "sound basis would not exist" for renewal of UNPROFOR's mandate in Croatia; recommends extension of existing mandate until 31 March to allow for current peace efforts.

+ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees condemns Bosnian Serb policy of denying humanitarian convoys access to besieged enclaves of eastern Bosnia.

+ Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia briefs President of France on Cambodian situation and challenges facing UNTAC.

+ Austria's Minister for Women's Affairs, in statement to Human Rights Commission in Geneva, says rape is being used as weapon of war in former Yugoslavia.

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With ten days left before the current mandate of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) expires, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has concluded that unless a negotiated settlement is reached between the Croatian Government and the Serb population in the so-called "pink zones", a "sound basis would not exist" for renewing UNPROFOR's mandate in Croatia.

That assessment is contained in a report by the Secretary-General to the Security Council, dated 10 February, in which he outlines the options for UNPROFOR's future mandate in the United Nations Protected Areas and the "pink zones" -- areas of tension between Croatian forces and local Serb militias.

In his report, the Secretary-General calls for "urgent efforts", at every senior level, to resolve the problems arising from the recent Croatian offensive in the region. He recalls that the primary reason for UNPROFOR's deployment in that country by the Security Council a year ago, was to create the conditions under which a political settlement could be negotiated. However, he says, the Croatian Government and the local Serb authorities are at present "a long way" from meeting the Security Council's demands under

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For information media--not an official record

resolution 802 (1993) for Croatian withdrawal to previous positions and an end to hostilities.

Warning that the situation could lead to large-scale hostilities if UNPROFOR is withdrawn from the region, the Secretary-General reports that he has asked the Co-Chairmen of the Steering Committee of the International Conference on former Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, to pursue a solution urgently and to make recommendations concerning UNPROFOR's mandate. In order to give the Co-Chairmen the necessary time to pursue their efforts, the Secretary-General has recommended to the Security Council that it extend the existing mandate for an interim period up to 31 March.

In a related development, Croatia has accused the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) of conducting war actions aimed at eliminating the remaining members of the Croatian population in United Nations Protected Areas, Sector South and surrounding areas of the country.

In a letter to the Secretary-General, dated 8 February, the Prime Minister of Croatia, Hrvoje Sarinic, said the territory of Croatia, formally under the protection of UNPROFOR, was "a scene of terror and genocide as all the remaining Croats are held hostage by the foreign irregular units".

He went on to say that Yugoslavia, its volunteer phalanxes and paramilitary formations of the so-called "Knin authorities" had exterminated the traces of the last remnants of Croatian population in the country by expelling hundreds of persons and simultaneously destroying their homes and property. Up to now, nearly 3,000 people had been expelled and 500 killed in the territory under UNPROFOR protection, he said.
Documents S/25264 and S/25265

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The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sadako Ogata, has condemned the Bosnian Serb policy of denying humanitarian convoys access to the besieged enclaves of eastern Bosnia as a means of "starving people out of their homes".

According to a press release issued at Headquarters today, Mrs. Ogata had sent a letter to the leader of the Bosnian Serbs, Radovan Karadzic, in which she said the UNHCR had been pressing for weeks for clearance to deliver aid to the enclaves, where "more than a hundred thousand people are suffering untold hardship due to the military blockades".

Mrs. Ogata reminded Mr. Karadzic of his repeated assurances that humanitarian convoys would be guaranteed unhindered, safe passage. She pointed out that "victims do have a right to receive international assistance in their place of residence".

The High Commissioner has also asked Cyrus Vance, the Secretary-General's Personal Envoy to Yugoslavia, to give top priority to the issue of humanitarian assistance in the International Conference on the former

Yugoslavia and to ask the Bosnian Serbs for their immediate support for the delivery of assistance.

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The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, met last night with President François Mitterrand of France, during the latter's one-day visit to Cambodia.

According to a spokesman for the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), Mr. Akashi briefed President Mitterrand on the general situation in Cambodia and the challenges confronting UNTAC. Mr. Akashi thanked the French President for his country's contribution to UNTAC and said that the Paris Agreement was still valid, although UNTAC had to make some adaptations in light of the situation in the country.

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In the conflict in the former Yugoslavia, rape was being used as a weapon to wage war against women, Austria's Minister for Women's Affairs, Johanna Dohnal, has told the Human Rights Commission in Geneva. The assaults against the physical integrity and human dignity of women had become part of a cynical strategy of warfare, she said.

Addressing this morning's meeting, the Minister said women were raped not only in war but also in peacetime. It was the everyday violence against women in society which made men resort to the strategy of systematic rape in war. She called for intensified efforts to outlaw all violence against women. The rights of women should be made a priority at the World Conference on Human Rights scheduled to be held in Vienna in June.

The Commission also heard calls for the international community to act expeditiously to prevent the outbreak of war in Kosovo, and to help end the suffering of the civilian population, particularly the Muslim community of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Speakers also called for the criminalization of the abhorrent policies of systematic rape and "ethnic cleansing" as war crimes and the establishment of international judicial mechanisms to prosecute perpetrators of those crimes.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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DH/1331
16 February 1993

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General, beginning official visit to Japan, urges that country to take more active role in building new United Nations and to help safeguard world peace.

+ Expert Commission on war crimes says it would welcome decision by Security Council or another international body to establish tribunal in relation to war crimes in former Yugoslavia.

+ Secretary-General's Special Representative for United Nations Observer Mission to Verify the Referendum in Eritrea meets with representative of Provisional Government and United Nations officials on his arrival in Asmara, Eritrea.

+ Outer Space Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, beginning its 1993 session at Headquarters, reviews application of major space technology over past year.

+ Economic and Social Council establishes 53-member Commission on Sustainable Development, as recommended by UNCED.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, on an official visit to Japan, has urged that country to take a more active role in building the new United Nations and to help safeguard world peace.

Speaking at a dinner hosted by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in Tokyo today, he praised legislation passed last year allowing Japanese troops to take part in United Nations peace-keeping operations. Mr. Boutros-Ghali emphasized that it was for the Government, people and Parliament of Japan to decide how to carry that process forward.

Since 1986, Japan has been the second largest contributor to the United Nations regular budget and a major donor to the specialized agencies, but "the international community expects even more of Japan", the Secretary-General said. "We need the democratization of international affairs", he said, noting that "such a system will need the more active involvement of Japan".

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For information media--not an official record

The Secretary-General is expected to return to New York this weekend.

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The Commission of Experts on war crimes in the territory of the former Yugoslavia has said it would welcome a decision by the Security Council or another international body to establish a war crimes tribunal for crimes committed in that region. The five-member Commission was set up by the Security Council last year to investigate reports of grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions and other violations of international humanitarian law in the former Yugoslavia.

In a recent interim report to Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the Commission said a tribunal on war crimes might be established by States choosing to combine their jurisdictions under the principle of universality. The Commission recalled that the Nuremberg International Military Tribunal following the Second World War was said to have derived its authority from such a combination of national jurisdictions of States.

The Commission said that it would accept an offer from the Canadian Government to provide a team to conduct further on-site investigations of the offences in the Vukovar area. While preliminary reports showed that grave breaches and other violations of international humanitarian law had been committed in the former Yugoslavia, tangible evidence of those violations must be secured in the form of testimonies, identification of victims, forensic or pathology reports, photographs and location maps. That was why the Commission's database on human rights violations must be completed as soon as possible, "since that alone can provide the foundation for the formulation of conclusions on the evidence of war crimes in the former Yugoslavia", the Commission said.

In a letter dated 9 February which accompanied the Commission's report, the Secretary-General told the Security Council that he had asked the Commission to continue its work on the database and that he would take the necessary steps for the creation of a trust fund to finance the Commission's work.

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Samir Sanbar, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Observer Mission to Verify the Referendum in Eritrea (UNOVER), arrived in Asmara, Eritrea, yesterday to take up his duties.

According to a United Nations spokesman, Mr. Sanbar met today with the Referendum Commissioner, Amare Tekle, to discuss preparations for the referendum process. He also met with the Deputy Foreign Secretary of the Provisional Government of Eritrea. The Foreign Secretary is away attending a meeting of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

Mr. Sanbar also met with the Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and representatives of other United

Nations agencies, in the need to emphasize a unified integrated United Nations presence in Eritrea.

The referendum in Eritrea is expected to be completed by April. At present, 17 of 21 advance mission staff are in Asmara.

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The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, beginning its 1993 session at Headquarters today, reviewed major space activities carried out during the International Space Year (1992).

The Chairman of the Subcommittee, John Carver (Australia), called for priority consideration to be given to topics relating to the United Nations Programme on Space Applications and matters relating to remote sensing, during the current session. He also stressed that more attention should be paid to the protection and preservation of the outer space environment, given its potential for adversely affecting the earth's environment.

Giving practical examples of the use of space technology, Mr. Carver said that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) had used satellite imagery from commercial SPOT and Landsat spacecraft to identify high-fertility farmland areas for the resettlement of 350,000 Cambodian refugees. The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) had also used about 1,000 small ground-level communication terminals to coordinate the activities of the 22,000 United Nations personnel supervising the return of the refugees.

During the Subcommittee's current session, which concludes on 28 February, it will also review the implementation of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE 82).

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The Economic and Social Council has established a 53-member Commission on Sustainable Development as one of its functional bodies, as recommended by the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

Acting without a vote, the Council decided that the Commission would meet annually for a period of two to three weeks. As a transitional measure, it would hold an organizational session from 24 to 26 February. Its first substantive session would be held at Headquarters from 14 to 25 June.

Other action taken by the Council included the selection of the themes of the high-level and coordination segments of the Council's substantive session, which will be held from 28 June to 30 July, in Geneva. The theme of the high-level segment will be "World Summit for Social Development, including the role of the United Nations system in promoting social development".

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17 February 1993

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Although peace process in Cambodia continues to encounter "serious problems", progress is made in implementing Security Council's demand for compliance with phase II of cease-fire agreement, according to report by Secretary-General.

+ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees suspends relief efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina due to "failure of all parties" to respect humanitarian principles; Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference meet Russian Deputy Foreign Minister; to meet with United States special envoy tomorrow.

+ Secretary-General, in speech delivered at Waseda University in Tokyo, says Japan's support for United Nations will be crucial in post-cold war era.

+ International Atomic Energy Agency requests special inspection in Democratic People's Republic of Korea to clarify inconsistencies in declared nuclear inventory.

+ Secretary-General appoints Lieutenant-General Cevik Bir of Turkey as Force Commander of Second United Nations Operations in Somalia.

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Although the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) continues to encounter "serious problems" in its efforts to prepare the country for free and fair elections, some progress has been made, according to Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

In a report to the Security Council, dated 13 February, on the implementation of Security Council resolution 792 of 30 November last year, the Secretary-General cites as progress the holding of the constituent assembly elections from 23 to 25 May and the implementation of measures to prevent the supply of oil to the Party of Democratic Kampuchea (PDK).

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For information media--not an official record

In response to a number of serious incidents and attacks on UNTAC personnel last fall, the Council had adopted resolution 792 condemning the failure by the PDK to comply with its obligations under the second phase of the cease-fire agreement concerning cantonment and demobilization of its forces. It had also demanded that the PDK allow United Nations peace-keepers to proceed with voter registration in the areas under its control, and called for measures to prevent oil supply to areas occupied by any Cambodian party not complying with the military provisions of the Paris Agreements.

The Secretary-General proposes in his report that the Council issue a broadening of last year's demand for compliance with the Paris Agreements, since the response of some of the Cambodian parties to resolution 792 had "not been satisfactory". Recalling the Declaration issued by Prince Norodom Sihanouk in which he condemned all acts of violence against Cambodians or foreigners, including United Nations personnel, the Secretary-General said the Council might want to issue a similar call.

The PDK had "again failed to avail itself of the many opportunities offered to it by UNTAC to rejoin the peace process", the report said. However, the Secretary-General wrote, it was important to resist any pressure to exclude PDK representatives from the Supreme National Council for Cambodia, because that framework still offered the best hope for a solution to the problems of Cambodia.

With regard to the interim period between the elections and the formation of the new Government, the Secretary-General stresses that, if all the parties maintain their forces in the field, as at present, it would be necessary to keep UNTAC's Military and Civilian Police Components in being, "at a gerater strength than previously seen". He also proposes that the Council consider whether the elected Government should, if it so wished, continue to receive international support in maintaining internal security after the new Government is formed.

The Security Council held consultations this afternoon on the Secretary-General's report on Cambodia, as well as on his report on the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Croatia. It was also to consider a letter from France concerning the international tribunal on war crimes committed in the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

Meanwhile, according to a spokesman for UNTAC, more than 300,000 Cambodians have returned home as part of the United Nations repatriation programme. Under the plan, which is a joint effort of UNTAC and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), some 370,000 Cambodians are expected to return before the end of March.

The spokesman pointed out that more than 99 percent of the Cambodians have returned from seven camps inside Thailand. Some 2,000 Cambodians from Indonesia, Viet Nam and Malaysia had also returned under the programme. He added that all four parties to the Paris Agreements had scrupulously respected the returnees' freedom of choice of resettlement sites.

(more)

In order to help the returnees reintegrate socially and economically, UNHCR had launched a series of projects, in collaboration with the Rehabilitation Component of UNTAC, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and various non-governmental organizations. In addition to providing vocational training, UNTAC had employed directly more than 1,200 returnees in a variety of jobs, the spokesman said.
Document S/25289

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The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sadako Ogata, said today that she was suspending many of UNHCR operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina because of the "failure of all parties" to respect humanitarian principles.

According to a press release issued in Geneva today, the High Commissioner has decided, among other actions, to move UNHCR convoys back to their bases and immediately suspend all relief activities in Serbian-controlled Bosnia. She also recommended the suspension of all UNHCR activities in Sarajevo and withdrawal of most staff, leaving only a skeleton UNHCR presence in the besieged city of 380,000; suspension of land convoys and airlift to Sarajevo; and maintaining, at a reduced level, UNHCR relief operations in areas of Bosnia where UNHCR could still operate.

Mrs. Ogata said that the Bosnian Serbs were refusing to give humanitarian convoys access to more than 100,000 people besieged in eastern Bosnian villages. "The Croats were hampering delivery of relief supplies in other areas and now the Bosnian government itself is refusing to allow the distribution of relief to those so desperately in need in Sarajevo," she said.

"For months now," she pointed out, "UNHCR, United Nations staff and the non-governmental organizations have been risking their lives to deliver humanitarian assistance in the middle of a war to more than 3 million refugees, besieged and displaced persons in former Yugoslavia."

In a separate development, the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the former Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, held talks at Headquarters today with Deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation, Vitaliy Churkin. According to their spokesman, Fred Eckhard, the Co-Chairmen were also scheduled to meet tomorrow morning with Reginald Bartholomew, the United States special envoy to the peace talks on former Yugoslavia.

Mr. Eckhard went on to say that discussions on the situation in Krajina had resumed this morning at Headquarters. The talks focused on the implementation of the Security Council's resolution 802 which called for a cessation of hostilities by Croatian armed forces and the return of heavy weapons seized by Serb forces from UNPROFOR storage areas.

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The Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Hans Blix, has requested a special inspection in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to clarify significant inconsistencies in samples and measurements of the country's declared nuclear inventory. The Agency has so far conducted six missions in the country.

According to a press release issued by the IAEA in Vienna yesterday, the purpose of the mission would be to gain access to two sites in the country. Both these elements are necessary for the Agency to verify the correctness and to assess the completeness of the country's nuclear inventory.

The Minister of Atomic Energy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Choi Hai Gun, will travel to Vienna with a delegation of experts later this week in an effort to clarify the inconsistencies.

The subject will be taken up by the IAEA Board of Governors at its meeting beginning on Monday, 22 February, at which time any clarification provided by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea can be taken into account, the agency said.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in a speech delivered at Waseda University in Tokyo today, underlined Japan's contribution to the United Nations during the post-cold-war area.

He noted that universities contributed in an important way not only to the transmission of knowledge, which was indispensable for the world's future leadership, but also to the formation of such qualities as criticism, responsibility, creativity and vision. Those qualities were necessary to form a new spirit of cooperation on the solid foundation of a United Nations of Member States and to create positive ideas to safeguard peace and promote economic and social progress.

The Secretary-General pointed out that both the United Nations and Japan were at crossroads, facing everyday's rapid changes. The age of ideology and all-encompassing theory had passed, and new solutions had to be found, he said.

The Secretary-General was awarded a honorary doctorate degree by Waseda University in Tokyo.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has appointed Lieutenant-General Cevik Bir of Turkey as Force Commander of the United Nations Operations in Somalia (ONUSOM II).

The new United Nations operation will take over the humanitarian relief effort in Somalia after the United States-led Unified Task Force, which was deployed late last year, leaves that country. Discussions are currently being held on the arrangements for the transition between the two operations.

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According to a United Nations spokesman today, the magnitude of the new United Nations operation would be about 25,000 troops and anticipated rules of engagement would be similar to those of the Unified Task Force. He added that a report of the Secretary-General on the matter was expected soon.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1333
18 February 1993

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council, in presidential statement last night, condemns blocking of humanitarian convoys and impeding of relief supplies for civilian population in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

+ Lansana Kouyate appointed as Secretary-General's Deputy Special Representative for Somalia, with immediate effect.

+ In Angola, Secretary-General's Special Representative is trying to set up next round of talks in Addis Ababa between representatives of UNITA and Angolan Government; reiterates appeal for cease-fire to allow for humanitarian assistance to reach Huambo and other needy areas.

+ As Secretary-General continues visit to Japan, he tours offices of Tokyo Metropolitan Government and holds press conference at National Press Club.

+ Talks aimed at ending conflict in former Yugoslavia continue in New York between Co-Chairmen and United States special envoy; Security Council to hold formal meeting tomorrow morning on renewal of UNPROFOR mandate.

+ Anti-Apartheid Committee discontinues registres set up to discourage sports and cultural contacts with South Africa.

+ African family planning leader and Japanese non-governmental organization are winners of 1993 United Nations Population Award.

* * *

The Security Council, at a formal meeting last night, condemned the blocking of humanitarian convoys and the impeding of relief supplies for the civilian population in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(more)

The action came in response to the announcement yesterday by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) that it had suspended many of its operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina because of the "failure of all parties" to respect humanitarian principles.

In a statement read out by Council President Ahmed Snoussi (Morocco), the Council demanded that immediate and unimpeded access be given to humanitarian relief supplies. Further, it demanded that the parties and others concerned guarantee to High Commissioner Sadako Ogata that they would abide by the promises they had made to facilitate the full resumption of relief programmes.

UNHCR convoys were yesterday moved back to their bases and all relief activities in Serbian-controlled Bosnia were suspended. UNHCR activities in Sarajevo were also suspended and most staff was withdrawn, leaving only a skeleton UNHCR presence in the besieged city.

Meanwhile, the Council was continuing its consultations today on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Croatia for an interim period until 31 March, as proposed by the Secretary-General. The Council would convene in a formal meeting tomorrow morning to take action on the Secretary-General's recommendations.

* * *

Lansana Kouyate of Guinea has been appointed by the Secretary-General as his deputy Special Representative for Somalia, with immediate effect. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Kouyate was Guinea's Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

According a United Nations spokesman, the new Deputy Special Representative is expected to arrive in Somalia on 20 February to assume duty.

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In Angola, Margaret Anstee, the Secretary-General's Special Representative, is continuing her efforts to set up the next round of discussions in Addis Ababa between representatives of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and the Government.

According to a United Nations spokesman today, the fighting was continuing in some areas of the country with particular intensity in Huambo. Miss Anstee had reiterated her appeal of 10 February to the Government and UNITA for a cease-fire to allow for humanitarian assistance to reach Huambo and other needy areas. But so far, the spokesman said, there had been no formal response from either side to her appeal, although they had promised formally to consider the request.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, continuing his official visit to Japan, was given a brief tour today of the new building of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government by the Govenor of Tokyo, Shun-ichi Suzuki.

The Secretary-General and Mrs. Boutros-Ghali were then guests at a private luncheon, hosted by the Ambassador of Egypt and Mrs. Wahib Fahmy El-Miniawy at the Egyptian Embassy in Tokyo.

In the afternoon, the Secretary-General held a press conference at the invitation of Japan's National Press Club, attended by some 300 Japanese and international journalists.

In the evening, the Secretary-General received former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone before attending a private dinner hosted by the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, Yoshio Hatano.

* * *

Talks aimed at ending the year-old conflict in former Yugoslavia were continuing in New York today, according to Fred Eckhard, spokesman for the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference.

Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance met with the United States special envoy, Reginald Bartholomew and with United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Madeleine Albright.

The Co-Chairmen also continued their meetings with the Croatian delegation as well as with the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation, Vitaliy Churkin, Mr. Eckhard said.

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A sports register, set up by the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid to discourage teams and individual athletes from engaging in sports activities in South Africa, has now been discontinued. A similar register to dissuade entertainers, actors and others from performing in South Africa has also been discontinued.

In a statement issued at Headquarters, the Chairman of the Committee, Ibrahim A. Gambari of Nigeria, said the two registers, set up in 1981 and 1983, respectively, had played an important role in isolating South Africa in the sports and cultural areas. As part of the international efforts to eliminate apartheid in South Africa, the registers also significantly contributed to the dismantling of the apartheid system through a new, non-racial and democratic constitution.

* * *

An African family planning leader, Dr. Fred T. Sai of Ghana, and a Japanese non-governmental organization, Mainichi Shimbun Population Problems Research Council, are recipients of the 1993 United Nations Population Award.

(more)

The two winners, which will each receive a diploma, a gold medal and a monetary prize, will be granted the award at a ceremony to be held later this year.

The award is presented annually by the Committee of the United Nations Population Award to individuals and institutions that have made outstanding contributions to increasing the awareness of population problems and to their solutions.

Dr. Sai was chosen by the Committee for his leadership in the field of family planning. He is noted for his contributions to research on nutrition, community welfare and family planning, and for his direct involvement in both national and international programmes that address the problems of high fertility throughout Africa and the developing world.

Mainichi Shimbun Population Problems Research Council was chosen for its achievements in creating awareness of population issues through Mainichi Shimbun, the newspaper that created the Council in 1949, and by continually publishing studies, books and articles on population.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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19 February 1993

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, Security Council extends mandate of United Nations Protection Force in former Yugoslavia until 31 March to allow for peace negotiations to continue; demands full compliance with United Nations peace plan in Croatia and invites Secretary-General to reinforce Force's self-defence capability; Council to meet on Monday, 22 February, on establishment of international tribunal for war crimes.

+ Secretary-General is in contact with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with a view to ensuring immediate resumption of humanitarian relief programme in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

+ In Haiti, Secretary-General's Special Envoy to begin political dialogue as soon as deployment of additional United Nations observers is complete.

+ United Nations appeals to international community for $762 million in humanitarian aid for Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya and Sudan.

+ Major-General Lélio Gonçalves Rodrigues da Silva of Brazil appointed Force Commander of United Nations Operation in Mozambique.

+ International Year of Indigenous Peoples commemorated by Commission on Human Rights.

* * *

The Security Council today voted unanimously to extend the mandate of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in former Yugoslavia for an interim period until 31 March to allow for peace negotiations, especially with regard to the recent Croatian offensive, which could provide a basis for renewing the Force's mandate.

The Council took that action by adopting resolution 807 (1993) under which it demanded that the parties and others concerned honour the cease-fire and comply fully with the United Nations peace-keeping plan in Croatia.

(more)

Determined to ensure the security of UNPROFOR and, to this end, acting under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter - which allows the use of force to maintain international peace and security - the Council also demanded that the parties refrain from positioning their forces in the proximity of UNPROFOR's units in the United Nations Protected Areas and in the so-called "pink zones" -- Serb-controlled parts of Croatia.

The Council also demanded that the parties respect fully UNPROFOR's unimpeded freedom of movement enabling it to carry out all movements of equipments and weapons and all humanitarian and logistical activities. It further invited the Secretary-General to take all appropriate measure to strengthen the security of UNPROFOR, in particular by providing it with the necessary defensive means.

In an earlier report to the Council, the Secretary-General has warned that the situation could lead to large-scale hostilities if UNPROFOR was withdrawn from the region and has asked Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, Co-Chairmen of the Yugoslav Conference, to make recommendations concerning UNPROFOR's future mandate.

At present, the Force is principally deployed in three Republics -- Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Macedonia. The Force's current mandate also extends to Serbia and Montenegro and it has a liaison presence in Slovenia. Over the past year, the Force has grown considerably in number and in the range and. It carried out a large variety of tasks since its was established last February.

Meanwhile, Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, the Co-Chairmen of the Yugoslav Conference, continued their talks at Headquarters today with the parties to the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Talks today concerned the situation in Krajina and involved the Krajina Serbs, Croatian authorities, the Co-Chairment and the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation.

In a separate development, it was announced tonight that the Council would convene on Monday, 22 February, to consider the establishment of an international tribunal for crimes committed in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali announced today that he was in contact with the High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata, with a view to ensuring the immediate resumption of the humanitarian relief programme in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The programme was suspended on Wednesday due to failure of all parties to respect humanitarian principles in the region.

In a statement issued at Headquarters, he said it was "imperative" that all parties involved comply fully and immediately with the Security Council's appeal earlier this week for unimpeded access of humanitarian convoys to the civilian population in the region.

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The Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Haiti, Dante Caputo, is expected to begin the political dialogue as soon as the deployment of additional observers to the country in the coming weeks is completed.

According to a United Nations spokesman today, the first joint teams of the Organization of American States (OAS) and United Nations observers arrived in Haiti last Sunday. Their leaders have indicated that their initial activities had taken took place normally, including the deployment of the observers to areas outside the capital of Port-au-Prince.

* * *

The United Nations today launched four special appeals to the international community totalling $762 million for humanitarian assistance to Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya and the Sudan, according to a press release issued by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs.

The appeal includes $80.5 million for Eritrea, $299.9 million for Ethiopia, $191.2 million for Kenya and $189.8 million for the Sudan. Each appeal represents an integrated inter-agency programme for the next one-year period. The amount of the identified humanitarian requirements for 1993 should be $970 million inferior to that of last year, as a result of improved harvests.

In Ethiopia, relief assistance will be provided to some 5 million, including refugees fleeing the conflict in Somalia and those displaced by local insecurity. Eritrea, the press release says, is benefiting from a period of sustained peace after over 25 years of war. A better-than-average harvest following drought, however, will only meet half of the food requirements of the country.

In spite of recent rains in Kenya, major drought relief efforts are still needed and the continuing drought is affecting 1.5 million people. In addition, the country is hosting more than 400,000 refugees, mostly from Somalia. In the Sudan, the conflict in the south, which has resulted in 1.7 million displaced persons, continues to create massive relief needs and makes access to the affected populations difficult and dangerous.

The 1993 programme for relief and rehabilitation requirements in Somalia was being prepared and would be submitted to a Conference on Humanitarian Assistance for Somalia, to be held in Addis Ababa from 11 to 13 March, the release added.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has appointed Major-General Lélio Gonçalves Rodrigues da Silva of Brazil as Force Commander of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ), with effect from 13 February.

Major-General da Silva joined the Brazilian Armed Forces in 1955. He is presently commander of the Third Division of the Brazilian Army. During his

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military career, General da Silva has led and taken part in official and technical visits and missions to the United Kingdom, France and Sweden, as well as to various countries in North and South America.

* * *

The indigenous people were among the most maltreated in society, whether they lived in rich or poor countries, said Antoine Blanca, Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights and Coordinator for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People (1993).

Speaking at a special session of the Commission in Geneva, dedicated to the year-long United Nations celebration of the contributions and cultures of indigenous peoples, Mr Blanca said the International Year should mark the beginning of a new and more fruitful partnership between them, their host countries and the international community.

Rigoberta Menchu, a member of the Quiche tribe of Guatemala and winner of the 1992 Nobel Peace Prize, called on the Commission and the United Nations to take practical measures to support the human rights and cultures of indigenous peoples, and to provide them greater official access to United Nations bodies and activities. She also expressed the hope that the Nobel Prize would serve as an opportunity to break the world's silence on the terrible plight of indigenous peoples. The observance of the International Year was the first time the attention of the Organization had been focused directly and solely on indigenous people, she said.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1335
22 February 1993

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council decides to establish international war crimes tribunal for prosecution of persons responsible for violations of international humanitarian law in ex-Yugoslavia; asks Secretary-General to submit proposals for swift implementation of today's decision.

+ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees decides to resume full relief operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina after receiving assurances from all three warring parties for their cooperation.

+ Talks between Angolan Government and UNITA to resume in Addis Ababa on Friday, 26 February, according to Secretary-General's Special Representative for Angola.

+ Secretary-General to travel to Washington D.C. tomorrow for meeting with President Clinton on wide variety of international issues.

+ Commission on Human Rights decides to appoint Special Rapporteur to investigate Israel's violations of human rights in occupied Arab territories, including Palestine; also adopts resolutions on situation in Cambodia and on use of mercenaries.

+ Iraq protests decision by Compensation Commission that it should pay interests on compensation for damages inflicted during Persian Gulf war, saying resolution 687 (1991) "made no reference to question of interest".

+ World Food Programme says Angola is on brink of breakdown as hunger and disease threaten 3 million people.

+ Italy to contribute $10 million in aid to United Nations Trust Fund for Humanitarian Assistance Programme in Mozambique.

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Determined to put an end to the war crimes committed in the territory of former Yugoslavia, the Security Council has decided today to establish a war crimes tribunal for prosecution of persons responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law committed there since 1991.

The Council took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 808 (1993) by which it asked the Secretary-General to submit, in no later than 60 days, a report containing his proposals for the effective and expeditious implementation of today's decision.

The Council last October established a five-member Expert Commission to examine and analyse information received from Member States on grave breaches of the Geneva Convention and other violations of international humanitarian law. In an earlier interim report, the Expert Commission had welcomed the establishement of a tribunal. Moreover, the Co-Chairmen of the Sterring Committee of the International Conference on the former Yugoslavia had also recoomended the creation of an international tribunal for war crimes.

Under the resolution, the Council expressed its conviction that, in the particular circumstances of the former Yugoslavia, the creation of an international tribunal would contribute to the restoration and the maintenance of peace.

Speaking after the vote, the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, Jean-Bernard Mérimée, described the Council's action today as "a decision of major significance". For the first time in history, he said, the United Nations would be setting up an international criminal jurisdiction, which would be competent to try those who have committed serious war crimes on the territory of former Yugoslavia.

He noted that prosecution of the guilty was a clear message to those who continued to commit crimes that they would be held responsible for their acts. It was with those considerations in mind, he said, that the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, Roland Dumas, had asked a group of jurists to draw up a report on establishing an international criminal tribunal. The report had been made public as a Security Council document.

Madeleine K. Albright, the Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations, said today's "historic" resolution was the first step to establishing an ad hoc tribunal on war crimes. The United States would, in cooperation with the United Nations, exert every effort to ensure that those individuals involved in the "outrageous and heinous" crimes were identified and held accountable for their actions, she said.

Ms. Albright recalled that the Nuremberg principles on war crimes and the crimes against peace and humanity were adopted by the General Assembly in 1948. By today's resolution, she noted, the Council had shown that the will of the Organization could be exercised even if it had taken nearly half a century. And, unlike the world of the 1940's, the international humanitarian law today was impressively codified, well understood, agreed upon and enforceable, she said.

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Addressing correspondents following the Council meeting, Ms. Albright said that today's action was part of an overall policy of more active American engagement in trying to deal with the situation in the former Yugoslavia.

* * *

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata, decided on Sunday, 21 February, to resume full relief operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina after receiving assurances from all three warring parties that they would no longer hinder the delivery or distribution of humanitarian relief.

According to a press release issued by the agency, the decision came following consultations with Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on the positive developments on the ground. They agreed to accept the proferred assurances and resume the operation as soon as possible.

High Commissioner Sadako Ogata said it would appear that her decision to partially suspend the relief operations, combined with the strong supporting statements from the Security Council and the Eruopean Community as well as the personal intervention of the Secretary-General, might have produced the desired results.

* * *

The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Angola, Margaret Anstee, said today that talks between the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and the Government of Angola were scheduled to resume this Friday, in Addis Ababa.

According to a United Nations spokesman, she cautioned that the date was still tentative since some logistical details still had to be worked out, but plans were already moving forward. The spokesman said the main purpose of the talks was to reach agreement on the reinstatement of the cease-fire and the return to the implementation of the 1991 Peace Accords. Other matters to be discussed would include the future role of the United Nations in the context of the agreements reached; the release and treatment of prisoners; and the seriously deteriorating humanitarian situation.

* * *

It was announced today that Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali would travel to Washington D.C. tomorrow for a meeting with United States President Bill Clinton on a wide range on international issues, in particular the the cooperation between the United States and the United Nations with regard to Cambodia, Somalia and Yugoslavia Other

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The Commission on Human Rights decided last Thursday to appoint a Special Rapporteur to investigate Israel's violations of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine.

According to a United Nations press officer in Geneva, the Commission gave the Rapporteur a mandate to receive communications and hear witnesses and to report his conclusions and recommendations to the Commission on Human Rights at its future sessions, until the end of the Israeli occupation. The Commission called upon Israel to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur.

In other resolutions adopted on Thursday, the Commission reaffirmed the inalienable right of Palestinian people to self-determination without external interference, and urged the Government of Israel to abstain from installing settlers, including immigrants, in the occupied territories. It emphasized that the displaced persons must be allowed to return to their homes and to recover their properties.

By yet another resolution, the Commission asked the Secretary-General to ensure a continued United Nations human rights presence in Cambodia after the expiry of the mandate of the United Nations Transitional Authority (UNTAC) in that country in order to manage the implementation of educational, advisory services and technical assistance programmes, and to assist the Government of Cambodia, established after the elections, to meet its obligations under human rights instruments.

The Commission also reaffirmed that the recruitment, use and financing and training of mercenaries should be considered as offences of grave concern to all States. It urged all States to prevent mercenaries from using their territory to destabilize any sovereign State.

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Iraq has protested a decision taken by the United Nations Compensation Commission asking it to pay interests on compensation for damages inflicted during the Persian Gulf war, saying that the so-called cease-fire resolution had "made no reference to the question of interest". Under resolution 687 (1991), which set out the conditions for the cease-fire in the Persian Gulf war, Iraq was held liable for any direct loss, damage, including environmental damage, suffered by third countries in the Gulf conflict.

In a letter to the President of the Council, dated 13 February, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, said the decision to impose interests on compensation conflicted with legal principles and the trend followed in the peace treaties following the Second World War. It also conflicted "fundamentally with the principles of justice and fairness", he said.

He called on the Security Council to take the necessary steps to abrogate the decision and reaffirm compliance with its resolutions on this matter, without any "overextension in the area of compensation".

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Meanwhile, in another letter addressed to the Secretary-General, dated 15 February, the Iraqi Foreign Minister said the United Nations Sanctions Committee had "revealed a transparent insistence on continuing to inflict damage on the Iraqi people and deprive it of the most elementary requirements for its daily life".

The Iraqi people, he wrote, had stated its desire to turn over a new page in dealing with the new United States Administration. He expressed the hope that the Administration would respond to the efforts by Iraq, influencing positively on the meetings of the Sanctions Committee.
S/25305, S/25298

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In Angola, a new wave of killings and destruction is threatening an additional 1.5 million people displaced by civil war in the country, the World Food Programme (WFP) has reported.

In a press release issued at Headquarters, WFP Director Philippe Borel described the situation as "the worst that can happen to a country". Reporting that a total of 3 million people were now in need of food assistance, he announced that the agency was trying to bring more food into Angola quickly. He also criticized the lack of security and power failures, hampering the discharge of food and threatening WFP relief workers of whom four were killed recently.

In a separate announcement, the WFP said it would provide emergency relief food to 50,000 Togolese refugees in Ghana during the next six months. According to the agency, about 300,000 people had fled civil unrest in Togo to neighboring countries Benin and Ghana.

* * *

The Government of Italy has expressed its intention to contribute $10 million in aid to the United Nations Trust Fund for Humanitarian Assistance Programme in Mozambique.

At a meeting at Headquarters on Friday, 19 February, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Eliasson was informed by the Italian Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Carmelo Azzara, that his Government would contribute the amount, which is part of the sum pledged by Italy at the Donors Conference for Mozambique held in Rome in December last year. The funds will be used to support relief assistance, reintegration, demobilization and demining operations in Mozambique.

Agreement was also reached to proceed with the establishment of a joint consultative mechanism between Italy and the United Nations Office for Humanitarian Assistance Coordination (UNOHAC) in Maputo, in order to define and facilitate the implementation of activities to be supported by the contribution.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1336
23 February 1993

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ President of Security Council welcomes plan by United States to airdrop relief supplies into Bosnia and Herzegovina, saying such operation would reach more people in danger of starvation; European Community also expresses support for such action; Secretary-General meets with President Bill Clinton to discuss that plan.

+ Discussions between Croatian Government and local Serbs on situation in Croatia to continue this week in Geneva, according to Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference; talks on Bosnian peace plan also expected to continue this week.

+ President of Security Council, following consulations with Foreign Minister of Greece and Deputy Prime Minister of Macedonia, says definitive reply is expected later this week.

+ United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon lodges protest to Israeli authorities over incident in village of Yatar in which Nepalese soldier is killed and another wounded.

+ Reports of clashes last night in Kismayu between warring factions confirmed today by spokesman for United Nations Operation in Somalia.

+ Some 310,000 Cambodian refugees have returned home so far under United Nations voluntary repatriation programme; seven members of UNTAC released after two hours of detention by National Alliance of Democratic Kampuchea.

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The President of the Security Council, Ahmed Snoussi (Morocco) today said he welcomed the plan put forward by the United States to airdrop relief supplies into Bosnia and Herzegovina, saying such an operation would reach more people in danger of starvation. Speaking to correspondents at Headquarters, he also praised the willingness of certain countries, including Pakistan, to participate in the operation.

(more)

For information media--not an official record

He emphasized that the airdrop operation would be coordinated by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The United States plan to airdrop relief supplies into Bosnia was also welcomed today by the Commissioner for External Relations in the Commission of the European Communities, Hans Van den Broek.

At a press conference at Headquarters, he said the twelve European member States, while fully endorsing the Vance-Owen Plan, hoped that the new Administration of President Clinton would join in the efforts to bring the Yugoslav parties together.

Sir David Hannay, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations, also expressed his Government's support for the plan to airdrop relief over Bosnia as a supplement to the major effort on the ground in which British troops have been participating.

He said he expected an announcement by the United States later today on its plans within the framework of the Security Council resolutions and in close cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR).

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali met with United States President Bill Clinton this afternoon in Washington D.C. to discuss the American proposal to use airplanes to reach civilians in need of humanitarian assistance.

* * *

Discussions between representatives of the Republic of Croatia and local Serb authorities on the situation in Croatia will continue this week in Geneva under the auspices of the Co-Chairmen of the Yugoslav Conference, Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance.

In a statement read out during consultations of the Security Council today, Mr. Vance, the Secretary-General's Personal Envoy to Yugoslavia, said that some differences remained between the two sides on who should police certain areas from which Croatian forces were to withdraw. Discussions in Geneva would focus on resolving the outstanding difficulties that have so far held up conclusion of a cease-fire agreement, he said.

Mr. Vance briefed the Council on meetings he and Lord Owen, the European Community Negotiator, held last week with representatives of the two sides on a proposed cease-fire agreement, requested by the Secretary-General as condition for the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) there beyond 31 March. He reported that agreement had been reached on large parts of the plan, including a five-day deadline, after the conclusion of the agreement, for the Croatian armed forces and the police to return to positions held before the outbreak of hostilities last month. The five-day deadline also applied to the placement of all heavy weaponry under

the supervision of UNPROFOR and its control of specified areas. Moreover, the parties would request the United Nations to strengthen UNPROFOR to carry out its functions under the Vance plan.

With regard to the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Vance reported that he and Lord Owen had held a series of meetings with the United States Special Envoy, Reginald Bartholomew, and with the Special Envoy of the Russian Federation, Deputy Foreign Minister Churkin.

The Co-Chairmen had sought to continue their meetings with representatives of the Bosnian sides, "but it has not been easy to organize these meetings", Mr. Vance said. Further meetings with the three sides were expected this week, he said.

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The Security Council today held consultations on the question of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Speaking to correspondents after the Council's deliberations, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations, Sir David Hannay, said Council members had been briefed on a progress report by the Council President Ahmed Snoussi, who had held consultations this morning with the Foreign Minister of Greece and the Deputy Prime Minister of Macedonia. Sir Hannay said there was support in the Council for a quick solution to the problem of that former Republic of Yugoslavia and that Council members felt that the inclusion of this new country in the United Nations would be a factor for stability in the area.

Meanwhile, Council President Snoussi told correspondents that he was expecting a definite answer from the two parties either tomorrow or Thursday.

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The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) has strongly protested an incident in which a Nepalese soldier was killed and another wounded Monday night when a mortar round fired by the South Lebanon Army (SLA) hit a UNIFIL position in the village of Yatar.

In a statement issued at Headquarters today, UNIFIL said it had lodged the protest to the Israeli authorities concerning the exchange of fire between the Israel Defence Forces (IDF)/the South Lebanon Army (SLA) and forces of the Islamic Resistance.

As far as UNIFIL was concerned, the statement said, there was nothing to justify the firing directly into a Nepalese position. Since the inception of UNIFIL in 1978, some 192 peacekeepers have died, 19 of them Nepalese, it said.

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Reports of clashes last night in Kismayu between the forces loyal to Mr. Mohammed Said Hersi, known as General Morgan, and Colonel Omar Jess, were confirmed today by the spokesman for the United Nations Operation in Somalia (ONUSOM). General Morgan's troops now controlled Kismayu and the Jess forces were on the outskirts of the city "apparently preparing for a counter-attack", the spokesman said.

The new Force Commander of the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II), Lieutenant-General Cevik Bir of Turkey, arrived in Mogadishu yesterday. He was received by Ambassador Ismat Kittani, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia. The Commander, who would remain in Mogadishu until 25 February, was briefed by personnel of UNOSOM and the United States-led Unified Task Force (UNITAF), the spokesman said.

The Ad Hoc Committee for National Reconciliation in Somalia met in Mogadishu today to prepare for the Conference on Somalia scheduled to be held on 15 March in Addis Ababa.

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Some 310,000 Cambodians have returned home as part of the United Nations voluntary repatriation programme for Cambodian refugees. The plan is a joint effort of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

According to a press release issued by the UNCHR today, the Khao-I-Dang camp would be the sixth of seven camps to be closed since the operation to repatriate nearly 370,000 refugees began in March last year.

The last camp will be shut down on 30 March before the elections, which are scheduled to be held from 23 to 25 May.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) reported today that seven members of UNTAC had been released after having been "briefly deprived of their freedom of movement" by the National Alliance of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK).

The seven people included three United Nations Military Observers -- two from the United States and one from the Russian Federation -- one Bangladesh battalion platoon leader, a medical doctor attached to the Civilian Police Component, an interpreter and the Deputy Provincial Director of Siem Reap Province.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1337
24 February 1993

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ In effort to maintain momentum in negotiations on settlement for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Security Council endorses call by Secretary-General and United States President for swift resumption of peace talks in New York.

+ Chairman of Special Commission on Iraqi Disarmament reports incident at Iraqi weapons site west of Baghdad in which Iraqi authorities threatened to shoot down United Nations helicopter if it did not leave area.

+ More Afghans are fleeing their war-torn homeland than returning from exile, according to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

+ Lieutenant-General Satish Nambiar, Commander of UNPROFOR, to return to service in India; to be replaced by UNIFIL Commander Erik Wahlgren for interim period beginning 3 March.

+ Meeting of donor countries pledging funds for United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia to be held in Phnom Penh tomorrow, according to UNTAC spokesman.

+ Chairman of newly-established United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development urges Commission members to work within true spirit of partnership.

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Concerned that the present opportunity to reach a negotiated settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina should not be allowed to slip, the Security Council today endorsed the call made by the Secretary-General and the United States President Bill Clinton yesterday for a swift resumption of the peace talks.

In a statement read out by its President, Ahmed Snoussi (Morocco), the Council urged the Bosnian leaders to respond quickly and positively to the call and come to New York immediately to resume discussions with a view to the early conclusion of an agreement to end the conflict in the Republic.

(more)

For information media--not an official record

The statement also expressed the Council's full support for the efforts of the Co-Chairmen of the International Steering Committee of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia to bring the talks to a successful conclusion.

In a separate development, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali yesterday told President Clinton that he welcomed Unites States Administration's plan for the possible use of airdrops to reach civilians in Bosnia and Herzegovina in critical need of relief supplies.

The Secretary-General had traveled to Washington D.C. at the invitation of President Clinton to discuss the American humanitarian initiative and its coordination with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), which are currently overseeing overland relief efforts.

According to a statement issued at Headquarters last night, agreement was reached between the United Nations and United States that the airdrops would be temporary and supplemental to land convoys. The President stressed his intention to coordinate such operations closely with United Nations relief efforts.

Among other issues discussed at yesterday's meeting were the United States' support for the role of the United Nations, as well as Somalia and Haiti.

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Rolf Ekeus, the Chairman of the Special Commission on Iraqi Disarmament, this morning briefed the Security Council on an incident on Monday at a large weapons site west of Baghdad in which Iraqi authorities threatened to shoot down a United Nations helicopter if it did not leave the area.

Mr. Ekeus informed Council members that the Iraqi action was in violation of this country's obligations under Council resolution 687 (1991) . He said the Iraqi authorities had been notified of the flight the day prior to the mission, and that the helicopter was white-painted with the United Nations insignia.

Speaking to correspondents after his briefing of the Council, Mr. Ekeus said that the inspectors team was looking for items such as mobile launchers or missiles and that, due to the size of the site, helicopter surveillance was needed to support the ground personnel. The day before the mission, the Chief Inspector had informed the Iraqi authorities of the team's intention to use helicopters in support of the inspection. However, the following day, when one helicopter approached the site it was warned that it would be shot down if it flew over the area. The team protested vigorously to the Iraqi authorities, but was told "it was standing military practice".

In a separate development, the Special Commission's Chemical Destruction Group at Muthana State Establishment has announced that it had completed the

destruction in Iraq of all the 122 millimetre rockets filled with the nerve agent sarin that are known to the group. The Commission is currently overseeing destruction of bulk nerve agent by hydrolysis at Muthana. The only sarin that remains to be destroyed now is that which is contained in 16 undrained warheads for the Al-Hussein missiles.

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For the first time since the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) began assisting Afghan refugees repatriating from neighbouring Pakistan, more Afghans are fleeing their war-torn homeland than returning from exile.

According to a press release issued by the UNHCR, the renewed exodus reflects the uncertain political climate in Afghanistan and continuing hostilities among rival militias. It has also cast doubt on earlier predictions that up to 2 million Afghans will return from exile in 1993. It is the first time the trend has been reversed since the start of the UNHCR-assisted Afghan voluntary repatriation programme in July 1990.

An estimated 75,000 Afghan refugees entered Pakistan over the past six months. In addition, some 500,000 Kabul residents have become internally displaced since hostilities among rival militias erupted in August 1992.

The fall of the Soviet-installed Afghan government in April 1992 triggered one of the largest voluntary repatriation movements ever assisted by the UNHCR. More than 1.5 million Afghans went home from Pakistan and Iran last year.

* * *

Lieutenant-General Satish Nambiar, Commander of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in former Yugoslavia, has expressed his desire not to renew his contract and to return to service in India, a United Nations spokesman said today.

The spokesman confirmed that Force Commander Nambiar's contract would expire at the end of February and that he would be replaced for an interim period with effect from 3 March by Lieutenant-General Erik Wahlgren from Sweden. Formerly with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), Lieutenant-General Wahlgren would command UNPROFOR, whose current mandate is to expire on 31 March.

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A meeting of donor countries pledging funds for the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) will be held in Phnom Penh tomorrow, according to a spokesman for UNTAC.

The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, and Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Chairman of the Supreme National Council,

(more)

would participate in the meeting, which would be chaired by Roger Lawrence, Director of Rehabilitation and Economic Affairs of UNTAC.

In a separate development, the spokesman said Prince Sihanouk had paid tribute to the men and women of UNTAC for their work in Cambodia and, more specifically, the casualties suffered by some of them in landmine explosions. He also cited such explosions as the major cause of death and severe injuries among the ranks of Cambodian officers.

According to the spokesman, some 28 civilian and military personnel had died while serving with UNTAC, and a total of 32 UNTAC members had suffered injuries as a result of the hostile action by the various political parties in Cambodia or as a result of mine explosions. On 17 February, he said, five members of UNTAC were injured in a mine blast, some of them seriously.

* * *

The Chairman of newly-established United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, Razali Ismail of Malaysia, has urged Commission members to work within a true spirit of partnership. He has also stressed that transition to sustainable development called for costs and commitments.

Speaking at the opening of the Commission's three-day session at Headquarters today, Mr. Razali said the Commission was not created out of a vacuum but had been assiduously crafted and structured by a major exercise of international cooperation which was the only way to ensure the sustainability of the planet.

The session is being held as a transitional measure to facilitate the work of the Commission's first substantive session which will be convened from 14 to 25 June in New York. The 53-member Commission was formally established by the Economic and Social Council on 12 February on the recommendation of the General Assembly as a follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

The Commission is charged with monitoring the progress in the implementation, by Governments and by the international community, of 'Agenda 21' -- the programme of action adopted by UNCED.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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Prepared by Central News

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25 February 1993

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council expresses strong support for use of humanitarian air drops, in full cooperation with United Nations, into isolated areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina; condemns blockade of humanitarian convoys, calling it "serious impediment to negotiated settlement"; meanwhile, United States announces that it will conduct humanitarian air drops over Bosnia.

+ Secretary-General appeals to representatives of Angolan Government and UNITA to agree on cease-fire and resume political dialogue at second round of talks scheduled to begin in Addis Ababa, tomorrow.

+ United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in Near East condemns killing of United Nations nurse by Israeli troops.

+ Special Representative of Secretary-General for Cambodia expresses disappointment at performance of donors in disbursing their pledges to the country.

+ World Food Programme says potentially serious winter food crisis in northern Iraq is averted by deliveries of food ahead of schedule; situation remains critical in rest of country.

* * *

The Security Council today expressed its strong support for the use of humanitarian air drops, in full cooperation with the United Nations, in isolated areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina that are in critical need of relief supplies and cannot be reached by ground convoys.

The action came in a statement read out by Council President Ahmed Snoussi (Morocco), in which the Council strongly condemned once again the blocking of humanitarian convoys that, inspite of repeated demands, continued to be impeded by Serb paramilitary units, especially in the eastern parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, namely in the enclaves of Srebrenica, Cerska, Gorazde and Zepa. It also reiterated its demand that the Bosnian parties grant immediate and unimpeded access for humanitarian assistance.

(more)

The statement said the Council deplored the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina at a time when discussions were to resume with a view to reaching a just and durable agreement to end the conflict. The Council also expressed concern over the security of United Nations personnel threatened by measures taken by the Serb paramilitary units to interdict humanitarian convoys.

The deliberate impeding of the delivery of food and humanitarian relief essential for the survival of the civilian population in Bosnia and Herzegovina constituted a violation of the 1949 Geneva Convention, the statement said, and the Council was committed to ensuring that individuals responsible for such acts were brought to justice.

Meanwhile, President Bill Clinton announced today that, in coordination with the United Nations and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United States would conduct humanitarian air drops over Bosnia.

In a statement issued by the United States Mission to the United Nations, President Clinton said the purpose of the air drops was to supplement land convoys, as a temporary measure, designed to address the immediate needs of isolated areas that could not be reached by ground.

President Clinton said that regular overland deliveries were the best means to ensure that the long-term needs of the Bosnian population were met, and he stressed that the priority for air deliveries would be determined without regard to ethnic or religious affiliation.

In a separate development, the Russian Federation has said it would support the establishment of multi-national United Nations forces to assist in the implementation of the peace plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina after its approval and would consider participating with a Russian contingent in such forces. The proposal was put forward in a statement submitted to the President of the Security Council by the Russian Permanent Representative, Yuriy M. Vorontsov, in a letter dated 24 February.
Document S/25329

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has appealed to representatives of the Angolan Government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) to agree on the speedy implementation of an effective cease-fire which would enable the resumption of a political dialogue. The second round of talks are scheduled to begin in Addis Ababa, tomorrow.

Calling on leaders of both sides to make every effort and display the necessary spirit of compromise, the Secretary-General said today in a statement that a truce was necessary not only to enable the resumption of a dialogue but also to ensure that humanitarian assistance is delivered to millions of suffering Angolans.

(more)

The Secretary-General said that a "humanitarian tragedy" of grave proportions was developing there and it could get even worse. Many thousands of people were killed in fighting over the past four months and up to three million Angolans were estimated to be suffering from hunger, drought and disease. The children and the aged, being the most vulnerable groups of society, were the worst affected, he said.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali noted that the support of the international community largely depended on the implementation of a rapid and effective cease-fire and the Addis Ababa talks was a "crucial watershed."

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The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) has condemned the killing of a United Nations nurse by Israeli troops on Tuesday, according to a press release issued by the agency in Vienna yesterday. The 28 year-old nurse, Awad Suradi, was shot in the back of the head by a single bullet as he was providing emergency medical assistance to an injured boy in Rafah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip.

Pointing out that the incident was part of a pattern of increased use of lethal force by Israel, the Commissioner-General of UNRWA, Ilter Türkmen, said the agency would lodge a strong protest with the Government of Israel. He added that it was "inadmissible that Israeli troops should open fire on United Nations staff, especially medical personnel treating injured persons."

The agency also stated that there had been more deaths and injuries over the past few months in the Gaza Strip than at any time in nearly three years. Since 1 December 1992, a total of 39 deaths and more than 1,000 injuries were reported in the Gaza Strip. Thirteen of the dead were children under the age of sixteen.

* * *

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi has expressed disappointment at the performance of donors in disbursing their pledges to the country made in Tokyo last June.

Addressing a donors review meeting in Phnom Penh today, Mr. Akashi said it was hard to avoid the impression that "some donors have slowed the pace of their activity in order to assess the evolution of the political situation in Cambodia". He urged the donors to recognize that "a certain amount of risk has always surrounded the international effort in Cambodia".

Mr. Akashi told the donors that their positive response would "mean much to Cambodia and to the success of the unprecedented international effort to put in place a freely-elected government" that could usher in "a new era of peace and prosperity that the people of Cambodia aspire to so much".

The meeting was aimed at taking stock of progress made so far; to ascertain achievements made; to identify areas where progress had not been

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adequate; and to draw conclusions as to what modification in approach or policy was required.

* * *

The World Food Programme (WFP) announced today in Ankara that a potentially serious food crisis in northern Iraq had been averted as all the 34,200 metric tonnes of food required for the winter relief programme had been delivered well ahead of schedule.

Nevertheless, the Programme warned, there still was need for further humanitarian assistance beyond 31 March and the situation in central and southern Iraq remained critical as the shipping of the amount of food pledged for that region had only started recently.

Following the start of the United Nations winter relief programme in November, the WFP had launched its plans to feed 750,000 people in northern Iraq and 450,000 people in the central and southern regions.

The food supplies for the Kurdish population in northern Iraq were rolled in from neighbouring Turkey by trucks. During the delivery period, the WFP experienced a number of problems, including the blowing up of United Nations relief convoys by bombs which led to a delay and temporary suspension of the food distribution.

The Programme began relief operations in Iraq after the Gulf War in April 1991. Since then, it has delivered about 190,000 tonnes of food valued at about $106 million to vulnerable groups in all of Iraq.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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Prepared by Central News

DH/1339
26 February 1993

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General decides to send goodwill mission to Uganda and Rwanda to report on peace process in latter country; will make recommendations to Security Council.

+ Marco Vianello-Chiodo of Italy appointed Assistant Secretary-General for Department of Public Information, effective 1 March.

+ Security Council holds formal meeting this evening on Secretary-General's report "An Agenda for Peace".

+ Theft of United Nations property and harassment of UNTAC observers by members of National Alliance for Democratic Kampuchea reported by UNTAC spokesman.

+ Commission on Human Rights, meeting in Geneva, condemns all violations of human rights in former Yugoslavia by all sides to conflict; extends mandate of Special Rapporteur on this subject for one year.

+ IAEA Board calls on Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respond promptly to agency's request for access to additional information and to two sites in the country.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in a statement issued at Headquarters today, said he had decided to send a goodwill mission to Uganda and Rwanda to oversee the peace process in Rwanda, which has been torn by a conflict between forces of the Rwandese Patriotic Front and the Government. The mission, which will also visit Dar-es-Salaam and Addis Ababa for consultations with Tanzania and the Organization of African Unity (OAU), will report to the Secretary-General who will then make recommendations to the Security Council.

(more)

For information media--not an official record

The Secretary-General made the decision following requests earlier this week by the Governments of Rwanda and Uganda for the dispatch of a United Nations observer/monitor force of "appropriate size" to be stationed on both sides of the border between the two countries.

The mission, which will leave New York on 2 March, will comprise Mr. Macaire Pedanou (Togo), former Director in the United Nations Department of Political Affairs and Florence Barrillon Pomès, Senior Political Affairs Officer at the Department of Political Affairs.

The team is expected to return to Headquarters on 17 March.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today announced the appointment of Mr. Marco Vianello-Chiodo of Italy as Assistant Secretary-General for Department of Public Information (DPI), as of Monday, 1 March.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Vianello-Chiodo was the Deputy Executive Director (External Relations) of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) with the rank of Assistant Secretary-General, a post he held since 1987. He joined UNICEF in 1984 as Director of Programme Funding Office responsible for the fundraising of the agency.

From 1959 to 1984, Mr. Vianelli-Chiodo served the Italian Foreign Ministry in various capacities, including as Ambassador to Sri Lanka and the Maldives and as Minister Plenipotentiary in Rome

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The Security Council was expected to hold a formal meeting this evening concerning the Secretary-General's report entitled "An Agenda for Peace". Tonight's meeting is the second formal meeting of the Council on the report, which was issued on 24 June in response to a request by the first summit meeting of the Security Council, held last January.

The report reviews recent developments affecting international peace and security and introduces a multi-faceted integrated programme of proposals aimed at enhancing the United Nations effectiveness in early warning of potential conflicts and post-conflict measures to build peace among former adversaries.

* * *

The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) has reported that harassment of its military and civilian personnel and theft of United Nations property by members of the National Alliance for a Democratic Kampuchea (NADK) were occurring increasingly.

In a press release issued today, the spokesman for UNTAC cited an incident yesterday in which a team of UNTAC observers, who had gone to a

(more)

village near Siem Reap to investigate charges of an "alleged cease-fire violation", had to hand over their vehicles and radio equipment to a group owing allegiance to the NADK. The observers, he said, were prevented from leaving the village unless they parted with the equipment. Negotiations between another UNTAC team dispatched from the sector headquarters and the NADK failed to resolve the situation, he stated.

The spokesman said there was "a disturbing pattern" in the incidents which involved theft of United Nations property. The matter would be brought up "in no uncertain terms" with the NADK at the meeting of the Mixed Military Working Group today. The United Nations Headquarters would also be fully informed of the situation, he said.

In a separate development, the spokesman said that as of 31 January, there was 20,874 international staff -- military and civilian -- from more than 100 countries serving in UNTAC throughout Cambodia's 21 provinces.

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A team of military and civilian observers with the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), who had gone to a village near Siem Reap yesterday to investigate charges of an "alleged cease-fire violation" there, were relieved of their vehicles and radio equipment by some members owing allegiance to the National Alliance for a Democratic Kampuchea (NADK), according to a spokesman for UNTAC.

In a press release issued today, the spokesman said that the observers, who had a "pre-arranged" meeting with the NADK, were prevented from leaving the village unless they parted with their two vehicles and radios. Negotiations between another UNTAC team dispatched from the sector headquarters and the NADK also failed to resolve the situation, he stated.

Furthermore, he described that it was a disturbing pattern in "all these incidents" which involved theft of United Nations property. "The vehicles had been purchased with funds provided by the international community at large and it was unacceptable that anybody -- let alone a faction that signed the Paris Peace Accords -- would shamelessly exert undue pressure on UNTAC personnel through armed threats," he said.

He said the matter would be brought up "in no uncertain terms" with the NADK and at the meeting of the Mixed Military Working Group today. The United Nations Headquarters would also be fully informed about the situation.

In a separate development, the spokesman said that as of 31 January, there was 20,874 international staff -- military and civilian -- from more than 100 countries serving in UNTAC throughout Cambodia's 21 provinces.

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Continuing its session in Geneva, the Commission on Human Rights has condemned all violations of human rights in the former Yugoslavia by all sides

to the conflict. It also extended the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on this issue for one year.

The Commission also adopted a resolution which condemned the systematic rape of women in the former Yugoslavia and expressed outrage at the practice of rape being used as a weapon of war. It asked the Special Rapporteur to pursue an investigation into the phenomenon of rape in the former Yugoslavia and to present a report to the Commission no later than 30 June.

The Commission on Human Rights will end its forty-ninth session on 12 March.

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The Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has called upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respond urgently to its request earlier this month for access to additional information and to two additional sites in the country. The Democratic People's Republic was asked to clarify the reasons for inconsistencies that have emerged from IAEA analysis of samples and measurements.

Concluding its four-day meeting at Vienna yesterday, the Board decided that such access was essential and urgent in order to resolve differences and to ensure verification of compliance with the safeguards agreement.

The 35-member Board asked Hans Blix, the Director-General of the IAEA, to continue dialogue with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and to report back on the matter not later than one month, at a meeting of the Board to be convened for that purpose.

The Agency has conducted six inspection missions to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to verify the correctness and assess the completeness of that country's nuclear inventory, as declared to the Agency last year.

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